Queues for Senior Citizens at Railway Bookings Centres

†2867. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no provision for separate queues for senior citizens at the ticket booking centres in New Delhi area and at Sarojini Nagar reservation counter, as a result of which they have to face great difficulties; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) At present at important reservation offices in New Delhi area including Sarojini Nagar and New Delhi reservation Office at IRC A, Senior Citizens who want to purchase reserved tickets are handled at a separate counter alongwith passengers belonging to other categories like handicapped persons, blind persons etc.

As regard unreserved tickets, at important stations in new Delhi area, these are issued through Self Printing Ticket Machines (SPTMs) which are universal counters and at these counters, the waiting time is also not very long. As such it is not considered desirable to provide separate queues/counters for Senior Citizens for issue of unreserved tickets in New Delhi area.

Laying of Kolayat-Flodi Rafl Line

†2868. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS^be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey work for laying the rail line from Kolayat to Flodi in Bikaner district has been completed; and

(b) if so, by when it would be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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broad gauge line from Kolayat to Phalodi on strategic consideration has already been initiated and work would thereafter be processed for inclusion in the budget.

Quality of Tap Water at New Delhi Railway Station

2869. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six water samples lifted for test by the Delhi Jal Board's Treatment and Quality Control Department from tap water supplied at New Delhi Railway station platforms have been found unfit and unsafe;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Delhi Jal Board has written to the Railway authorities to ensure supply of potable water; and

(c) if so, the action taken to ensure compliance with the D.J.B.'s directive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Delhi Jal Board collected sample during October 2001 where it was mentioned that the water samples were found to be unsatisfactory. Delhi Jal Board took further samples during Nov. 2001 from New Delhi Stations where it was recorded "the water can be used for drinking purpose in the absence of better alternate source after adequate disinfection."

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is an independent monitoring system for ensuring satisfactory quality of water at Railway stations by medical Department of Railways. Medical Department regularly collects samples from all stations and corrective action. If required is taken by Engineering Department.